

Administration of Barack Obama, 2013

Statement on Immigration Reform

April 16, 2013

This afternoon Senators Schumer and McCain briefed me on the bipartisan immigration reform bill that they have drafted with their colleagues in the Senate. This bill is clearly a compromise, and no one will get everything they wanted, including me. But it is largely consistent with the principles that I have repeatedly laid out for comprehensive reform. This bill would continue to strengthen security at our borders and hold employers more accountable if they knowingly hire undocumented workers. It would provide a pathway to earned citizenship for the 11 million individuals who are already in this country illegally. And it would modernize our legal immigration system so that we're able to reunite families and attract the highly skilled entrepreneurs and engineers who will help create good paying jobs and grow our economy. These are all commonsense steps that the majority of Americans support. I urge the Senate to quickly move this bill forward, and as I told Senators Schumer and McCain, I stand willing to do whatever it takes to make sure that comprehensive immigration reform becomes a reality as soon as possible.

Categories: Statements by the President : Immigration reform.

Names: McCain, John S., III; Schumer, Charles E.

Subjects: Congress : Bipartisanship; Defense and national security : Border security; Immigration and naturalization : Citizenship; Immigration and naturalization : Reform; Immigration and naturalization : Visa policy, U.S.

DCPD Number: DCPD201300250.